

5 October 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, FBIS

THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT : Monthly Report--Nicosia Bureau--September 1981

I. GENERAL

In September Nicosia broke the 800,000 word filing barrier for the first time since the bureau reopened on Cyprus in 1975. In filing 813,000 words this month, the bureau set a new filing record for the fifth time in the past six months. Coverage of a full-scale antisedition campaign in Egypt and of a 3-day congress of the ruling Egyptian party largely accounted for the new increase.

On 3 and 10 September the embassy was targetted by anti-American marches protesting U.S. foreign policy in the Middle East. Although the bureau took advantage of the demonstrations to test out its security arrangements, both marches proved to be peaceful and short-lived.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Editorial/Monitorial

1. Due to increased interest in Egyptian domestic affairs and at the request of BBC, the bureau has reissued instructions on reopening of the bureau to file significant late-night Cairo MENA items. Throughout much of the month, however, Arabic monitors did not have to consider recalling an editor and teletypist, as priority copy generally kept the bureau open past MENA signoff.

2. As of 30 September the bureau relinquished all coverage of Tehran in Russian to Gulf Bureau. Nicosia's Chief Monitor and Regional Cruiser [redacted] had been covering the service on an ad hoc basis for nearly a year, as it was no longer monitorable at London Bureau. STAT

B. Lateral/Special Services

By request the bureau began dropping copies of its three daily wirefiled Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic newscast program summaries to AG as of 3 September.

III. ADMINISTRATION

PMU Arabic-language Monitor [redacted] completed his TDY at the STAT bureau and returned to Britain on 20 September. Bill had arrived in Nicosia on 17 July to provide much-needed assistance to the Arabic Section during the summer leave period.

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IV. VISITS

1. New DCM James Tull was given an official tour of the bureau and a briefing on FBIS on 25 September.

2. B&F Chief [] visited the bureau on TDY 1-3 September. STAT

3. Career Management Officer [] visited the bureau on TDY 12-16 September. STAT

4. Jordan Bureau Chief [] visited the bureau on an orientation/coordination TDY 14-17 September. STAT

5. Regional Engineer [] visited Tel Aviv Bureau on TDY 22-27 September. STAT



STAT

Nicosia Bureau Chief

Attachments:

- A. Operations (including Production and Traffic Reports)
- B. Engineering Report

